



**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION**

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year A  
Holy Eucharist Rite II  
10 am  
May 10, 2026

**405 Talbot Hall Road  
Norfolk, Virginia 23505  
(757) 423-6715**

# ORDER OF SERVICE

## *THE WORD OF GOD*

Prelude

Processional Hymn

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

*Blue Hymnal 690*

Opening Acclamation

*Book of Common Prayer p. 355*

“Glory to God”

*Blue Hymnal S-280*

Collect and Lessons

*Book of Common Prayer p. 357*

### **The Collect**

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **The New Testament**

### **The Acts of the Apostles 17:22-31**

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Psalm

Psalm 66:7-18

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
    make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- 8 Who holds our souls in life, \*  
    and will not allow our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
    you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snare; \*  
    you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads;  
    we went through fire and water; \*  
    but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- 12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings  
    and will pay you my vows, \*  
    which I promised with my lips  
    and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts  
    with the smoke of rams; \*  
    I will give you oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, \*  
    and I will tell you what he has done for me.

- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, \*  
and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, \*  
the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; \*  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \*  
nor withheld his love from me.

## **The New Testament Epistle**

**1 Peter 3:13-22**

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn

“Be Thou My Vision”

*Blue Hymnal 488*

## **The Gospel**

**John 14:15-21**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

*The Reverend John Baldwin*

Nicene Creed

*Book of Common Prayer p. 358*

Prayers of the People Form III

*Book of Common Prayer p. 387*

## **The Ascension Discernment Prayer**

(Recited together at the end of the Prayers of the People)

O God of wisdom and guidance,

We ask that you lead our parish in this season of discernment.

Bless our Search Committee with clarity,

Bless our Vestry with faithfulness,

And bless our whole congregation with patience and hope.

May the Holy Spirit guide and instill in the people of Ascension a  
glorious vision of the future.

And finally, we ask that You prepare the priest You are calling  
to join us,

and prepare us to welcome them and serve together in your name.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

*Book of Common Prayer p. 359*

The Peace

*Book of Common Prayer p. 360*

## *Holy Communion*

Offertory

“At the Name of Jesus” vs. 1-3

*Blue Hymnal 435*

Eucharistic Prayer A

*Book of Common Prayer p. 361*

Sanctus

*Blue Hymnal S-125*

The Lord’s Prayer

*Book of Common Prayer p. 364*

Breaking of the Bread

*Book of Common Prayer p. 364*

Communion\*

Communion Hymn

“Let Us Be Bread” vs. 1

*Maroon Hymnal 808*

Post Eucharistic Prayer

*Book of Common Prayer p. 366*

Recessional Hymn

“Rise Up, Ye Saints of God”

*Blue Hymnal 551*

Dismissal

*Book of Common Prayer p. 366*

Postlude

*\*You may come to the rail to receive communion or a blessing.  
Communion wine may be received from the common cup or by intinction.  
If you choose intinction, please hold the bread up for the Lay Eucharistic  
Minister to take it from you who will dip it in the second cup and return  
it. If coming for a blessing, or if not receiving the communion wine,  
simply approach the rail and cross your arms over your chest.*

# *In Our Prayers*

Joe Beck, Susan Beers, Gloria Carter, Billy Clark, Linda Day, Marilyn Doughty, Elaine Evans, Diane Forrest, William Grygar, Kate Hien, Rebecca Hirschler, Katie Hughes, Sharon Jones, Donna Killmon, Bryan Knight, Phoebe Montagna, Alessandra Myers, Shana Paul, Sydney Rudolph, Linda Sawyer, Diane Shepheard, Doug Thompson, and Margaret Wynn.

We pray for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Susan our Bishop, and John, our Guest Priest.

We pray for the people of Ascension, that formed by our Baptismal promises we might embody God's community of Shalom in the world.

We give thanks for the blessings of this life.

We give thanks for the birthdays of Mathilde Liskin (5/11), Victoria Jones (5/13), and Anji Harris (5/13).

We give thanks for our Tide drivers.

## **The Ascension Discernment Prayer**

O God of wisdom and guidance,

We ask that you lead our parish in this season of discernment.

Bless our Search Committee with clarity,

Bless our Vestry with faithfulness,

And bless our whole congregation with patience and hope.

May the Holy Spirit guide and instill in the people of Ascension a glorious vision of the future.

And finally, we ask that You prepare the priest You are calling to join us,

and prepare us to welcome them and serve together in your name.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# Announcements

We welcome **The Reverend John Baldwin** as our supply celebrant and preacher this morning.

We give thanks to **Karla Stead** for playing the piano for us this morning!

**Roy's ROMEOS will return on Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>** to The Royal Garden Chinese Restaurant, located at 155 W Ocean View Ave, between Duffy's Lane and 1st View St, in the Ocean View Shopping Center. Lunch will start at 11:30am, as usual. Please come and join us for good food, fun, and fellowship!

**May 17th - Annual Meeting and Town Hall Event Breakfast**

*Immediately after the service. Nursery will be available.*

Please plan to attend this important event.

While we enjoy a breakfast provided by the Vestry and friends, we will have the required but very brief **Annual Meeting** when our Wardens will present the state of the church and its finances and hold the required election of vestry members.

Then we will enjoy a **Town Hall** at which our special guest, Liz Villanueva, the Director of Transitional Ministry for the Diocese, will be talking about the CAT (Congregational Assessment Tool) interpretation as well as seeking additional information from the congregation. Whether you completed a survey or not, this will be your opportunity to let the Search team know your thoughts and opinions, in addition to hearing the results of the survey itself. So, everyone please come! Your input is vital to the success of our search for a new Priest in Charge!"

We will also have a Birthday Cake for our Name Day Celebration in lieu of an Ascension Day event and service.

## **May 24th - Pentecost Service and Reception**

Wear Red and join us for the Celebration of Pentecost! In the spirit of the evangelization that brought the faith to your ancestors, *please bring finger food appetizers and desserts* from your family history to share for the reception table. It will be fun to share the stories that made those treats so important for your families.

## **May 31st Trinity Sunday - Morning Prayer Service (No Eucharist)**

Readings, Prayers, Homily, and Music

Worship Leader Katherine Lawrence will be the officiant.

## **Chanco Chatter**

### **Chanco on the James: 2026 Summer Camp Registration Now Open!**

Summer is almost here, and Camp Chanco is ready for another unforgettable season on the James. For more than 50 years, Chanco has offered a fun, faith-centered camp experience for youth ages 8–16. From zip lines and high ropes to sailing, archery, arts and crafts, and outdoor adventures, every day is filled with opportunities to try something new. Campers build confidence, form lasting friendships, explore God's creation, and grow in Christian community — all in a safe and welcoming environment. To register, visit <https://chanco.org/camps/camp-info/>

## Creation Care

Thanks for participating in our trial recycling program! You can mix all your items together in your collection box. Drop off your items during office hours at DIOSOVA 11832 Rock Landing Drive Suite 100, Newport News (M-F 9-3) or Church of the Ascension 405 Talbot Hall Road, Norfolk (M-Th 9am-12pm). Ascension will also have a small outdoor collection box in their outdoor breezeway beginning April 2026. You can also mail your box to: Attn: Creation Care Team, 405 Talbot Hall Road, Norfolk, VA 23505.

### THE FOLLOWING ITEMS CAN BE RECYCLED

- **BEAUTY PRODUCTS AND PACKAGING** - Empty Cosmetic, Hair & Skin Care Packaging including Aluminized Tubes, Cosmetic Cases & Sticks, Plastic Packaging  
Unacceptable Items: Aerosol & Pressurized Cans, Cardboard, Electronic Items, Nail Polish Bottles & Removers, Partially Full & Full Packaging, Perfume Bottles, Wood & Bamboo, Wooden Eyeliner Pencils
- **PENS, PENCILS & MARKERS** - Pens, Pencils (non-wood), Highlighters, Markers & Caps, Mechanical Pencils, Pen & Pen Caps, Permanent Markers & Caps. Unacceptable Items: Paint Brushes, Wooden Pencils
- **BOTTLE CAPS** – Metal & Plastic Drink Bottle Caps  
Unacceptable Items: Bottles, Packaging, Liquids
- **WATER FILTERS** - Any Brand & Any Size Water Filters  
Unacceptable Items: Air Filters, Oil Filters
- **CONTACT LENSES & PACKAGING** - Contact Lenses, Plastic Film, Pods, And Cardboard Packaging  
Unacceptable Items: Contact Lens Solution, Bottles
- **ORAL CARE WASTE & PACKAGING** - Floss Containers, Toothbrush & Toothpaste Outer Packaging, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste Tubes & Caps  
Unacceptable Items: Floss, Other Oral Waste Care Items
- **COFFEE BAGS** – Empty Coffee Bags  
Unacceptable Items: Capsules, Coffee Grounds, Discs, Filters, Coffee Electronics, Other Coffee Packaging

- **CORKS** – Synthetic Beverage Corks Unacceptable Items: Natural Corks, Aluminum Champagne Twists, Bottle Caps, Bottles, Foil, Screw Tops

- **STRAWS** – Any Size Plastic Straws Unacceptable Items: Paper Straws, Biodegradable Straws

- **DISPOSABLE CUPS & LIDS** – Paper Coated Cups, Plastic Cups, Plastic Lids Disposable Cups

& Lids that have been rinsed and dried Unacceptable Items: Biodegradable Plastic Cups & Lids, Juice Boxes & Pouches. Other Rigid Plastic Containers

- **GLUE STICKS & BOTTLES** – Empty Craft Glue Stick Containers & Empty Glue Bottles

Unacceptable Items: Industrial Adhesive Containers

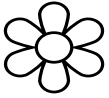
Questions – contact Canon Lynn Farlin at 757-676-6188 or [lfarlin@diosova.org](mailto:lfarlin@diosova.org)



## Outreach, Collections, & Opportunities:

**Catholic Worker Needs:** Coffee and white socks are always needed. Thank you very much!

**Reminder:** The deadline for announcements is Tuesday at 5pm. Announcements received after that time may not make it into the bulletin or the emailed announcements.



### *Sunday Seeds*

Below are just a few of the ways Ascension is serving our community:

- Each month, members of our church family lovingly prepare 100 sandwiches, which are delivered to Catholic Family Worker for distribution to those experiencing homelessness.
- The next Outreach meeting will be held on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm.
- June is Gun Violence Awareness Month. Please look for literature on gun safety from Sally Miller in early June.

Please watch for upcoming volunteer opportunities—we welcome your participation and support!

## Weekly Studies:

**Tuesday Centering Prayer** meets at 7:45am on Tuesdays on Zoom for one hour. The meeting opens at 7:30 for chatting, then at 7:45 we proceed with the reading of a psalm, 20 minutes of silent prayer/meditation followed by a discussion of the reading. The group is currently reading *After the Apple: Women in the Bible - Timeless Stories of Love, Lust, and Longing* by Naomi Harris Rosenblatt. We are a diverse group with members joining from three countries and various religious backgrounds. You are invited to join us at any time. To get on the Zoom invite list, please contact Anji Harris (anjiharris54@gmail.com) or Sally Miller (757-489-5293) or [samiller903@yahoo.com](mailto:samiller903@yahoo.com)).

**Re-Imagining Church** meets on **Thursdays at 12pm**. The meeting serves as a time of spiritual reflection and planning as we listen for and try to follow God's call to Ascension. Please join us; your perspective may be how God is informing us of what we should be doing next.

### Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88559209322?pwd=BubDI0FA8IXIwryikkt4Jito7gq0r.1>

**Meeting ID:** 885 5920 9322    **Passcode:** 346720

**Thursday Mid-Morning Seekers' Bible Study** will watch a video, read scripture passages, and discuss the questions together. I recommend joining the meeting early in case you have any issues getting connected. I hope to see everyone on Thursday at 10:00 am! If you are not on the email group or have trouble accessing the Zoom, please contact Susan Meredith at [merbec@cox.net](mailto:merbec@cox.net) or [757-617-1959](tel:757-617-1959).

**Meeting ID:** 832 5615 4914    **Passcode:** 614216

## **A Look at the Week Ahead:**

### **Monday**

11:30 am Roy's ROMEOs Lunch – Royal Garden Chinese Restaurant

### **Tuesday**

7:30 am Centering Prayer – Zoom

10:00 am Food Pantry – Pantry

11:30 am Buildings & Grounds – Rose Hall

### **Thursday**

10:00 am Food Pantry – Pantry

10:00 am Mid-Morning Seekers' Bible Study – Zoom

12:00 pm Re-Imagining Church – Zoom

### **Sunday**

8:45 am Godly Play – Parish Hall

8:45 am Coffee & Adult Formation – Hall for Coffee Then Lounge

10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II – Sanctuary

4:00 pm Youth Group – Rose Hall

# OUR VISION IS

Honoring the Past  
Looking Forward in Hope  
Be the Face of Healing  
Healing is the Core Value

## Your Vestry is here to serve you!

Susan Meredith*	2024-2026	<a href="mailto:merbec@cox.net">merbec@cox.net</a>	757.617.1959
Anji Harris+	2023-2026	<a href="mailto:Anjiharris54@gmail.com">Anjiharris54@gmail.com</a>	757.831.3474
Pat Duncan	2023-2026	<a href="mailto:Patlduncan2020@gmail.com">Patlduncan2020@gmail.com</a>	478.777.0904
Karen Newbern^	2024-2027	<a href="mailto:newby0325@gmail.com">newby0325@gmail.com</a>	757.685.6935
Luke Suber	2024-2027	<a href="mailto:lukesuber@yahoo.com">lukesuber@yahoo.com</a>	361.779.7216
Carol Evans	2024-2027	<a href="mailto:cevans1017@gmail.com">cevans1017@gmail.com</a>	757.335.1774
Robin Kruger	2025-2028	<a href="mailto:Rekruger54@gmail.com">Rekruger54@gmail.com</a>	757.470.9882

\*Senior Warden    +Junior Warden    ^Register

## Clergy

**Bishop** The Right Reverend Susan Haynes  
**Supply Priest** The Reverend John Baldwin

**Guest Pianist** Karla Stead

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